

GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

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ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE REGULATION
ADMINISTRATION BOARD

IN THE MATTER OF:

Capital Restaurant
Concepts, Ltd
t/a River Club
3223 K Street NW

Fact Finding
Hearing
[Extended
Safekeeping]

Ret. Class CR

License #10299

Thursday,
May 15, 2014

Suite 400S
2000 14TH STREET, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20009

The above-entitled matter convened at
1:55 p.m., before the District of Columbia
Alcoholic Beverage Regulation Administration
Board.

BEFORE:

RUTHANNE MILLER, Chairman
NICK ALBERTI, Member
DONALD BROOKS, Member
HERMAN JONES, Member
MIKE SILVERSTEIN, Member
HECTOR RODRIGUEZ, Member
JAMES SHORT, Member

1 P-R-O-C-E-E-D-I-N-G-S

2 (1:55 p.m.)

3 MR. KLINE: River Club, do you
4 want to go right into it?

5 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Well, do you
6 have a client coming?

7 MR. KLINE: No, I don't.

8 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Oh.

9 MR. KLINE: It's Capital
10 Restaurant. I don't have a client here.

11 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Yes.
12 So, I'll call that case. Capital Restaurant
13 Concepts, Ltd. trading as River Club located
14 at 3223 K Street Northwest, License Number
15 10299 and ANC 2E. This is a case where
16 license has been in extended safekeeping
17 since, according to my records, November 2,
18 2005.

19 MR. KLINE: Oh, really? I thought
20 it was longer than that.

21 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Oh, you did?
22 All right. Well, you know, I don't know if

1 these are right. So --

2 MR. KLINE: Yes, I'm not sure that
3 that's right. This is --

4 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay. Yes.
5 Go ahead.

6 MR. KLINE: -- again, for us old
7 timers --

8 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

9 MR. KLINE: -- this is the River
10 Club.

11 MEMBER BROOKS: Yes, the River
12 Club.

13 MR. KLINE: Yes, which operated
14 down there for many years. And the license
15 has been in safekeeping for many years and
16 it's held in safekeeping my Capital
17 Restaurant, which owns and operates a number
18 of restaurants in Georgetown, including
19 Paulo's, J. Paul's, Neyla, Old Glory and I may
20 have left one out but I mean they're probably
21 the preeminent operator in Georgetown, in
22 terms of number of locations.

1 And they had always and hoped and
2 thought that they were going to revive the
3 River Club and they've maintained and paid the
4 fees on this license low these many years.
5 And, in your new policy, you have forced their
6 hand and they're saying, well, we don't have
7 any immediate plans for it.

8 And, as a result of that, they
9 have entered into an agreement where they are
10 going to allow the license to be transferred
11 to a company controlled by Eastbanc, by
12 Mr. Anthony Lanier, who I think the Board is
13 familiar with.

14 And Eastbanc has acquired,
15 Eastbanc/Lanier, to me they're synonymous, but
16 has acquired the gas station site as you enter
17 into Georgetown. And Mr. Lanier was
18 originally in discussions with an operator who
19 happens to be another client of mine to go
20 into that site. And that fell apart.

21 And, now, he's planning on putting
22 a restaurant in there and he and Nammour

1 Bachara, the President of Capital Restaurant
2 Concepts have reached agreement for that
3 license to be transferred into that location,
4 the address of which is important. The
5 address is 2715 M Street Northwest.

6 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

7 MR. KLINE: And I spoke to
8 Mr. Lanier today and I told him, based on my
9 experience before the Board this morning, that
10 he can anticipate that the Board would likely
11 require that a transfer application be filed
12 within 60 days and he said that that was
13 perfectly acceptable to him, that was a time
14 line that he could easily meet.

15 So, what I would ask the Board to
16 do would be to allow 60 days for that transfer
17 application to be filed.

18 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

19 MR. KLINE: Keeping in mind that
20 two things: one is Capital Restaurant has been
21 paying fees on this license to keep it in
22 standing for many, many years and; number two,

1 they're not even selling it. I mean they're
2 basically doing it for what they believe to be
3 the good of Georgetown, because they know
4 Mr. Lanier will do a nice project.

5 It's a handshake deal between
6 Mr. Nammour and Mr. Lanier, the principals of
7 these two well known and we believe respected
8 companies in the District.

9 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: We don't know
10 what restaurant's going to go there, do you?
11 Is there a --

12 MR. KLINE: I don't know. This
13 was delivered to me at 7 o'clock last night,
14 as I was on my way to Mr. Silverstein's ANC 2E
15 meeting.

16 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Okay.

17 MR. SILVERSTEIN: Don't blame me.

18 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: All right.
19 More questions? Okay. So, it sounds like I
20 would recommend that we give them 60 days to
21 file a transfer application and, then, after
22 we get the application, we can determine

1 whether we want to call in the transferee for
2 a fact finding?

3 MEMBER ALBERTI: Is that a motion?

4 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: Well, we've
5 been kind of doing this by consent lately. In
6 fact, are there other ideas as to anything
7 otherwise? So, I think we can do it by
8 consent. All right. So, it's basically what
9 you proposed.

10 MR. KLINE: Great. Thank you.

11 CHAIRPERSON MILLER: And we'll
12 follow-up with the transferee after the
13 application's approved.

14 MR. KLINE: Right.

15 [Whereupon, at 2:01 p.m., the fact
16 finding hearing was adjourned]

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<hr/> A <hr/> above-entitled 1:16 acceptable 5:13 acquired 4:14,16 address 5:4,5 adjourned 7:16 Administration 1:3 1:17 agreement 4:9 5:2 ahead 3:5 ALBERTI 1:19 7:3 Alcoholic 1:3,17 allow 4:10 5:16 ANC 2:15 6:14 Anthony 4:12 anticipate 5:10 apart 4:20 application 5:11,17 6:21,22 application's 7:13 approved 7:13	Club 1:8 2:3,13 3:10,12 4:3 Columbia 1:1,16 coming 2:6 companies 6:8 company 4:11 Concepts 1:7 2:13 5:2 consent 7:5,8 controlled 4:11 convened 1:16 CR 1:9 <hr/> D <hr/> D.C 1:15 days 5:12,16 6:20 deal 6:5 delivered 6:13 determine 6:22 discussions 4:18 District 1:1,16 6:8 doing 6:2 7:5 DONALD 1:20	Georgetown 3:18 3:21 4:17 6:3 give 6:20 Glory 3:19 go 2:4 3:5 4:19 6:10 going 4:2,10 6:10 good 6:3 GOVERNMENT 1:1 Great 7:10 <hr/> H <hr/> hand 4:6 handshake 6:5 happens 4:19 hearing 1:8 7:16 HECTOR 1:21 held 3:16 HERMAN 1:20 hoped 4:1 <hr/> I <hr/> ideas 7:6 immediate 4:7 important 5:4 including 3:18 <hr/> J <hr/> J 3:19 JAMES 1:22 JONES 1:20	lately 7:5 left 3:20 license 1:10 2:14,16 3:14 4:4,10 5:3,21 line 5:14 located 2:13 location 5:3 locations 3:22 longer 2:20 low 4:4 <hr/> M <hr/> M 5:5 maintained 4:3 matter 1:6,16 mean 3:20 6:1 meet 5:14 meeting 6:15 Member 1:19,20,20 1:21,21,22 3:11 7:3 MIKE 1:21 MILLER 1:19 2:5 2:8,11,21 3:4,8 5:6,18 6:9,16,18 7:4,11 mind 5:19 mine 4:19 morning 5:9 motion 7:3	Oh 2:8,19,21 Okay 2:11 3:4,8 5:6 5:18 6:16,19 old 3:6,19 operated 3:13 operates 3:17 operator 3:21 4:18 originally 4:18 owns 3:17 <hr/> P <hr/> P-R-O-C-E-E-D-... 2:1 p.m 1:16 2:2 7:15 paid 4:3 Paul's 3:19 Paulo's 3:19 paying 5:21 perfectly 5:13 planning 4:21 plans 4:7 policy 4:5 preeminent 3:21 President 5:1 principals 6:6 probably 3:20 project 6:4 proposed 7:9 putting 4:21
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